# Halogen bonding or close packing? Examining the structural landscape in a series of Cu(II)-acac complexes

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### **General experimental details**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Unity plus 400 MHz spectrometer in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. Data is expressed in parts per million (ppm) downfield shift from tetramethylsilane or residual protiosolvent as internal reference and are reported as position (in ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m= multiplet), coupling constant (J in Hz) and integration (number of protons). <sup>13</sup>C nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were recorded on a Varian Unity plus 400 MHz spectrometer in CDCl<sub>3</sub> with complete proton decoupling. Data is expressed in parts per million (ppm) shift relative to CDCl<sub>3</sub> (77.00 ppm) and are reported as position ( $\delta$ ). Melting points were recorded on a Fisher-Johns melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. Infrared spectroscopy (IR) was done on a Nicolet 380 FT-IR. All the chemicals were purchased from Aldrich and used without further purification, unless otherwise noted.

### Molecular electrostatic potential charge calculations of 3-5

Charge calculations were performed using Spartan'04 (Wavefunction, Inc. Irvine, CA). All three molecules were optimized using PM3, with the maxima and minima in the electrostatic potential surface  $(0.002 \text{ e au}^{-1} \text{ iso-surface})$  determined using a positive point charge in the vacuum as a probe.



Fig. S1 MEP surface calculations of the ligands 3-5.







